

**Experimental Aircraft Association 1643 Inc.,
an Illinois Not for Profit Corporation
Newsletter
February 3, 2023**

TO ALL MEMBERS OF CHAPTER 1643:

February Chapter Gathering

The February Chapter Gathering will be held at the OSF Aviation hanger which is located on the OSF St. Mary's campus on North Seminary Street Galesburg, IL. A site map is attached which shows the location and parking for members attending the Gathering. The Gathering will take place on the regular date and time that being February 11, 2023 at 3:00 pm. Thank you to Matt Jern for facilitating this opportunity.

Board of Directors Meeting

Due to anticipated Phase II construction in the Stearman Community Center the next Board of Directors meeting will be held February 22, 2023 at 6:00 pm in the Jet Air Board Room at the Galesburg Airport. Please note the new time. Members are always welcome to attend.

Young Eagles

Young Eagles Committee Chair Matt Pankau reports: The chapter's first Young Eagles flying event of the new year is confirmed and scheduled for April 1st (April 2nd rain day). New for 2023 we will be staging Young Eagles Flights out of the Stearman Hangar at KGBG! We are excited and thankful for the opportunity to host the events from this awesome space. Weather dependent, Flights are expected to kick-off at 9:00 A.M. and conclude by noon. The Young Eagles Committee will be actively seeking pilots and volunteers for the event at future chapter meetings but all are encouraged to reach out directly to Matt Pankau at (flyboy3771@gmail.com) with questions or interest in getting involved. Parent registration via the Young Eagles Online website will be made public in the coming weeks and shared with chapter membership. Expect more updates closer to the event date.

Treasurer's report

Ellie Repp reports: Member dues are now "over-due" for the year 2023. Dues remain the same from last year, that being \$20 for individuals and \$35 for a family membership. As a reminder, only members in good standing are entitled

to vote at the Annual Gathering which is being held on March 11, 2023. (You can, of course, show up that day and pay your dues, we won't send you away!) I'll also be presenting the 2022 end of year financials at the Annual Gathering.

March Gathering

The March Gathering is scheduled for March 11 at 3:00 pm in the conference room at the Stearman Community Center. This is an important meeting for the Chapter as it is the annual meeting for the Chapter. Among other business, the annual budget for the chapter will be approved and 2 chairs for officer and director will be elected. The Chapter needs a quorum of Members to attend to make the election official.

In addition, the Directors, through the efforts of Stu Olmstead, have arranged for Peoria Air Traffic Control personnel to make a presentation following the Gathering business. These informational meetings with ATC are a great opportunity to gather insight into the air traffic control system and recent updates including but not limited to the transfer of approach/departure control to the St. Louis ARTCC. Peoria approach and departure is no longer handled locally. ATC will commence their presentation following the conclusion of Chapter elections and other business, if any.

We hope all Members take the opportunity to attend the Gathering and participate in not only the Chapter's future success but also the meeting with ATC.

The offices which will be up for election are President and Treasurer of the Chapter. Recall the Chapter staggers the election years for officers and directors to facilitate the smooth operation of the Chapter and avoid the confusion which could result from all officers and directors being changed at the same time. These offices are currently held by Matt Jern and Ellie Repp respectively.

In addition, 2 board of director seats currently held by Matt Jern and Aaron Repp will also be up for election.

Any Member in good standing is entitled to serve as officer and/or director and may be nominated, or may self nominate for an office. Nominations may be submitted in advance of the Annual Meeting and nominees should let an officer or director know of their interest. Alternatively, nominations may also be made at the annual meeting. So if you have an interest in serving the Chapter as an officer or director the March Gathering is your chance. Officers and directors are elected to a two year term.

At this time, Matt Jern, Aaron Repp and Ellie Repp will be running for reelection to the respective offices in which they are currently serving.

January Gathering

Stu Olmsted reports: Thanks to Jim Watson for hosting the January 14th gathering in his home shop where he is building an RV-7A. Jim did an interesting presentation on the RV project and answered a lot of member's questions. He's making good progress. Jim also explained the different uses of the multimeter answering many questions regarding that as well. Very educational.

There were plenty of cookies and beverages provided by the host as well. Thanks again Jim for the hospitality.

Gatherings

The Board of Directors has received information which suggests that the current gathering date, that being the second Saturday of each month, may be inconvenient for several members. Among other things, apparently EAA 1643 gathering dates and times conflict with those of other nearby chapters. In an effort to facilitate greater attendance at chapter gatherings, a survey is being prepared which will be emailed to members of EAA 1643 in an effort to identify if a different time and day for gatherings would be better for members. A survey only works if you respond so the Board is asking all members to respond to the survey within a week after receipt. The results will be reviewed by the Board and reported in the newsletter. Everyone's assistance in this effort is greatly appreciated

National Weather service presentation

The Board of Directors is working to have the National Weather Service in Davenport make a presentation for the Chapter at either the April or May Gathering in Galesburg Illinois. More information will be forthcoming.

Member Biography

My name is Joel McCormick. I was introduced to flying at an early age by my uncle who took me flying for the first time when I was 3 or 4. As I got older, he would pick me up on the weekend to go to fly-in breakfasts and visit airports around the state. It was very convenient because I lived a mile north of the Tri-County Airport (2C6).

When I was in junior high, I went with my uncle and grandfather to Oshkosh for the first time, and when I was in high school after a trip to Oshkosh my uncle asked me if I was interested in learning to fly. I started taking lessons in his Cessna 150 at Kewanee (EZI) and then moved to Canton (CTK) where I finished my training and earned my license in 2002. I was fortunate to be able to purchase the Cessna 150 F that I learned to fly in and spent many hours in growing up. A majority of my hours are in a Cessna 150, but I have a few hours in various other single engine aircraft from an Aeronca Champ, a Funk to

earn my tailwheel endorsement, a Citabria, and a Stearman. One aircraft I have not had the opportunity to fly yet is the Piper Cub. If I could only pick one it would probably be my favorite.

Over the years I have made many memorable flights, but more recently my favorite flights have been with my children as I took them on their first flights and introduced them to aviation. When I'm not flying I am usually attending an activity for one of my three kids or helping on my family's farm usually with an aviation podcast in my ear and an eye out to see who is in the pattern at the Tri-County Airport.

Member Accomplishments

Aaron & Ellie had the opportunity last weekend to venture to Oshkosh for the EAA Chapter Leadership Training. The weather was much less pleasant than in July, but the information and networking was invaluable. We learned a lot about EAA programs and were able to talk face-to-face with the team responsible for helping us be successful. We are excited to continue to help our Chapter grow and succeed!

The Chapter also wishes to welcome two new members Joel McCormick and Andy Johnston. Welcome to Chapter 1643!

Congratulations to Dean Stewart on purchasing his Citabria! How are those wheel landings going Dean?

Galesburg Airport Advisory Commission

The next Airport Advisory Commission meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2023 at 3:00 pm in the Jet Air conference room.

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